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Area Wage Survey
Raleigh-Durham, N.C.
May 1984

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
Summary
June 1984

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This summary presents results of a May 1984 survey of occupational wages in the Raleigh-Durham Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Durham, Orange, and Wake Counties. This is 1 of 92 areas which the Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys at the request of the Employment Standards Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for use in administering the Service Contract Act of 1965. In addition, the Bureau conducts more extensive studies of occupational wages and related benefits in 71 other areas throughout the United States. For information on these reports and other Bureau publications, contact any BLS regional office identified on the back page.

This study covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in manufacturing; transportation, communication, and other public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and selected services. A sample of 104 establishments employing 49,750 workers was selected to represent 409 establishments employing 96,348 workers in the area. (See table 2 for further information on the scope of the survey.) Data collected in the sample of establishments were projected to represent all establishments within the scope of the survey.

Table 1 provides hourly earnings information on office and plant workers employed in selected occupations common to a variety of industries. Occupational classification was based on a uniform set of job descriptions designed to take account of variations in job duties among establishments. The job descriptions used in the survey are available on request.

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Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., May 1984

Occupation	Number of workers			Hourly earnings (all workers)[1]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																			
	All[2]	Men	Women	Mean	Median	Middle range	3.35 and under 3.50	3.50 – 4.00	4.00 – 4.50	4.50 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.50	5.50 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.50	6.50 – 7.00	7.00 – 7.50	7.50 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 10.00	10.00 – 11.00	11.00 – 12.00	12.00 – 13.00	13.00 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00	15.00 – 16.00	16.00 – 17.00
Secretaries	1,146	-	1,142	7.95	7.70	6.72- 9.20	-	-	2	9	41	89	98	126	162	114	122	43	185	113	21	14	3	2	2	-
Secretaries I	409	-	409	7.13	7.13	6.05- 8.10	-	-	2	9	36	50	49	34	67	37	57	11	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Secretaries II	161	-	161	6.98	7.13	6.17- 7.50	-	-	-	-	5	31	19	21	39	29	8	2	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Secretaries III	281	-	281	8.35	8.15	7.10- 9.63	-	-	-	-	-	8	21	40	31	29	31	11	67	38	5	-	-	-	-	-
Secretaries V	39	-	39	11.40	11.47	10.62-12.17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	7	13	9	-	1	2	-
Typists	83	-	83	5.93	5.84	5.48- 6.00	-	-	-	9	22	23	17	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Typists I	78	-	78	5.95	5.85	5.48- 6.00	-	-	-	9	19	21	17	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
File clerks	159	1	158	4.51	4.26	3.91- 5.13	10	46	48	13	21	13	3	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
File clerks I	130	-	130	4.23	4.00	3.91- 4.40	10	46	48	11	7	5	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
File clerks II	25	1	24	5.50	5.47	5.31- 5.60	-	-	-	2	14	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receptionists	11	-	11	6.12	5.75	- -	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Switchboard operators	55	-	53	5.30	4.99	4.60- 6.15	-	2	10	23	1	2	9	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators	469	-	469	5.94	5.71	5.04- 6.80	4	5	35	55	95	60	71	52	38	41	5	2	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators I	386	-	386	5.76	5.50	4.96- 6.42	4	6	35	53	93	47	52	38	19	31	3	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators II	83	-	83	6.75	6.64	6.11- 7.25	-	-	-	2	2	13	19	14	19	10	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Computer operators	318	161	118	8.05	7.96	6.98- 9.03	-	-	-	-	9	29	11	33	35	43	40	35	54	20	6	3	-	-	-	-
Computer operators I	169	67	75	7.29	7.20	6.29- 7.96	-	-	-	-	9	29	11	27	28	24	11	12	13	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
Computer operators II	104	64	30	8.50	8.31	7.93- 8.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7	19	29	20	14	3	6	-	-	-	-	-
Peripheral equipment operators	40	24	16	5.19	5.12	4.87- 5.55	-	-	-	14	14	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drafters	188	112	29	9.14	9.03	7.88-10.10	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	6	12	27	16	16	44	23	17	7	6	-	-	-
Drafters II	40	33	6	6.90	7.04	6.41- 7.40	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	6	12	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drafters III	86	54	16	8.74	8.65	7.89- 9.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	8	16	30	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drafters IV	37	19	6	10.46	10.38	9.96-11.02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	-	-	-	-	-
Electronics technicians	397	377	20	11.96	11.37	11.01-13.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	3	5	8	40	29	125	62	62	30	10	18
Electronics technicians II	253	240	13	11.77	11.37	11.37-12.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	4	8	8	12	120	45	33	-	4	12
Maintenance carpenters	37	35	-	11.30	12.22	7.63-12.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	2	-	-	16	-	9	-	-
Maintenance electricians	135	135	-	11.73	11.78	9.50-14.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	8	2	15	-	49	4	3	22	3	13
Maintenance painters	14	14	-	10.80	10.98	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	-	2	-	-	-
Maintenance machinists	119	119	-	13.20	14.38	12.57-14.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	7	2	25	-	48	2	17
Maintenance mechanics (machinery)	77	77	-	9.80	9.45	7.91-12.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	4	9	8	-	12	11	6	20	-	-	-	-
Maintenance pipefitters	34	34	-	14.27	14.38	12.79-16.35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	-	13	2	9
Motor vehicle mechanics	158	157	1	10.15	10.54	8.05-12.56	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	1	5	22	19	14	2	17	23	31	11	2	-	2
General maintenance workers	134	134	-	5.77	5.35	4.50- 6.39	-	-	26	14	33	24	3	14	-	-	6	-	10	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tool and die makers	274	274	-	12.36	12.25	12.25-12.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	27	238	-	-	-	-
Stationary engineers	25	25	-	10.73	10.13	9.60-12.44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4	5	-	12	-	-	-	-
Truckdrivers	666	648	8	10.05	10.30	8.94-11.20	-	-	4	13	57	56	4	1	15	3	4	10	21	210	109	2	157	-	-	-
Truckdrivers, medium truck	238	221	7	11.34	10.30	10.15-13.46	-	-	-	6	5	3	-	1	-	3	4	4	8	90	2	1	111	-	-	-
Truckdrivers, tractor-trailer	376	375	1	9.63	10.30	6.00-11.20	-	-	4	4	52	33	4	-	-	-	-	6	-	120	107	-	48	-	-	-
Material handling laborers	124	124	-	6.85	6.20	6.20- 8.50	-	-	8	12	2	4	45	-	8	10	-	24	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Forklift operators	401	365	36	7.56	7.05	5.90- 9.60	-	4	10	-	-	129	16	3	63	51	5	10	71	23	-	16	-	-	-	-
Guards	658	253	30	4.19	3.50	3.50- 4.00	101	391	35	42	14	7	22	-	12	3	4	7	7	-	-	13	-	-	-	-
Guards I	658	253	30	4.19	3.50	3.50- 4.00	101	391	35	42	14	7	22	-	12	3	4	7	7	-	-	13	-	-	-	-
Janitors, porters, and cleaners	1,299	853	446	4.38	3.50	3.35- 4.64	594	235	93	101	70	55	29	33	1	39	2	-	-	-	47	-	-	-	-	-

[1] Excludes premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends, holidays, and late shifts. Incentive payments, such as those resulting from piecework, production bonuses, and commission systems, are included in the wages reported; nonproduction bonuses are excluded. Cost-of-living allowances are considered as part of the workers' regular pay. Hourly earnings reported for salaried workers are derived from regular salaries divided by the corresponding standard hours of work. The wages of learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers are excluded. The mean is computed for each job by totaling the earnings of all workers and dividing by the number of workers. The median designates position—one-half of the workers receive the same as or more and one-half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. The middle range is defined by two rates of pay; one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the lower of these rates and one-fourth earn the same as or more than the higher rate.

[2] May include data for workers not identified by sex. Similarly, for occupations with more than one level, data are included in the overall classification when a subclassification is not shown or information to subclassify is not available.

Table 2. Establishments and workers within scope of survey and number studied in Raleigh-Durham, N.C.,[1] May 1984

Industry division[2]	Minimum employment in establishments in scope of survey	Number of establishments		Workers in establishments		
		Within scope of survey[3]	Studied	Within scope of survey[4]		Studied
				Number	Percent	
All divisions	50	409	104	96,348	100	49,750
Manufacturing	50	108	25	41,711	43	22,802
Nonmanufacturing[5]	50	301	79	54,637	57	26,948

[1] The Raleigh-Durham Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget through February 1974, consists of Durham, Orange, and Wake Counties. The "workers within scope of survey" estimates shown in this table provide a reasonably accurate description of the size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. The estimates are not intended, however, to serve as a basis of comparison with other statistical series for the area to measure employment trends or levels since (1) planning of wage surveys requires the use of establishment data compiled considerably in advance of the payroll period studied, and (2) small establishments are excluded from the scope of the survey.

[2] The 1972 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual was used in classifying establishments by industry division.

[3] Includes all establishments with total employment at or above the minimum limitation. All outlets of companies in such industries as trade, finance, auto repair service, and motion picture theaters (within a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or nonmetropolitan county) are considered as one establishment.

[4] Includes all workers in all establishments with total employment (within the area) at or above the minimum limitation.

[5] Includes transportation, communication, and other public utilities (excluding taxicabs and services incidental to water transportation); wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; hotels and other lodging places; laundries and other personal services; automobile repair, rental, and parking; motion pictures; nonprofit membership organizations (excluding religious and charitable organizations); engineering and architectural services; and miscellaneous business services. Major industries excluded from this survey are agriculture; mining; construction; some services (notably educational institutions and medical services); and government operations.

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